

To: MOAB.DocketClerk@usda.gov

From: Roy Peters <rpeters@harborside.com>

Subject: Proposed Cranberry Volume Control

Cc: **Docket Number FV00-929-2 PR**

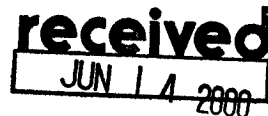
Bcc: **Proposed Rule**

Daniel Glickman

Secretary of Agriculture

Washington, DC 20250-0105

FAX: 202-720-5698



Roy Peters

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Bandon, Or 97411

Dear Sec. Glickman,

In response to the proposed rules establishing a cranberry volume control for the 2000-2001 crop year by the CMC and the USDA, I wish to state my objections to ANY AND ALL of the proposed rules.

The crop year is already upon us and we growers have spent the bulk of our expenses in order to raise this crop. We did this because we are farmers and that's what we do best. And we raise food for profit, satisfaction, and to provide food for people. We are proud to help do our part in feeding people. We want to see this crop in the food chain and in all the markets throughout this land, not in some LANDFILL. To invoke a volume control at this late date is counter productive. A marketing order to help the industry and growers alike this late into the growing season is not going to benefit us but cost us money and be a detriment.

There seems to be a prevalent thought that a volume control of a certain percent of our crop is going to help cranberry growers by allowing handlers to pay us more for our cranberries. When the industry is holding over three million barrels in surplus and we are required to dump less than the surplus how does this bring our price up? We have seen our price per barrel drop to depression levels in just the last two years and many believe all we have to do to turn this around is implement a volume control on the grower. In reality we have seen our price drop to below production costs, and now we are being told that if we welcome the USDA to force us to dump a portion of our crop we will get paid more than if we delivered all we grow. This is only a theory and I frankly don't believe it! I foresee receiving a below cost dollar amount for the coming crop and contributing a portion of that by dumping a percentage that the USDA will require. This is insanity!!

Ocean Spray and Northland are in a battle to see who is left standing....they establish market price.....they have the surplus inventory.....and they are supporting the set aside that will be imposed on the GROWER. To add insult to injury Ocean Spray is still allowing new planting by their members. What's wrong here? Will a grower allotment solve our problems? No, it will add to them and send us into bankruptcy sooner rather than later.

This industry does need help and we welcome your input, and the help we need is a way to sell more of our product at a profit....you can buy some and thereby give us some tangible, positive help. Please don't add to our costs by placing volume controls upon us and forcing us to incur associated expenses, and media attention that will place the cranberry industry in an unfavorable light.

I have been a grower for over 30 years and my son is now a second generation grower looking forward to the future. I have been an Ocean Spray grower and now am selling to Decas Cranberry Co.

I realize the time for a decision is fast approaching and I urge you to consider this response. Thank you for your consideration.

Roy Peters